



Methodist Church Debt Free to Hold Special Services Sunday

To celebrate liquidation of the Methodist church debt this week, special vesper services will be held next Sunday afternoon, commencing at 4:30 o'clock with a mortgage burning ceremony, it was announced today by Rev. Harry Branton, the pastor.

Arthur Holston, superintendent of the Long Beach district of the Southern California Arizona conference, will be the principal speaker.

According to Rev. Branton, \$1,000 per month in cash was raised by members and friends of the church during the past three months—\$3,000 in all—which was sufficient to clear the lien on the church.

Special music has been arranged for the occasion. Former pastors and old-time members and friends of the church have been invited to take part and a fellowship tea will be held in the parlors following the service to renew old friendships and make new ones, Rev. Branton said.

Fourth War Bond Campaign Success Draw Message of Appreciation to Torrance

Torrance citizens have responded very generously to the Fourth War Loan campaign in Torrance with both their time and money, declared Hillman R. Lee, chairman of the war finance committee, upon receipt of a telegram from Lynn P. Walker, executive vice president of the Los Angeles County war finance committee, advising him officially that Torrance had more than its quota and expressing

Gilbert W. Carl Destroys 4 Jap Planes in Fight

Miss Irene Mills of Lomita has received a letter from Lt. (jg) Gilbert W. Carl written from somewhere in the Pacific war zone in which he expressed appreciation of the book, "Go on to the Front to Serve," sent to him by Miss Mills.

He said it was interesting to hear of the whereabouts of former associates in the Torrance High school, but added, "It is amazing to me that as long as I have been in the Navy I have not run across a single man I knew while attending the high school." But, he said, "I ran across a very good friend of Louis Zamperini who told me he had met his end in a bombing raid to New Georgia, but that is all I can tell you."

Lt. Carl said his squadron was resting a while before taking another trip up. "We arrived out here on Oct. 25 and on the 27th we were fighting the Japs. We were based at Oudonga, New Georgia, which is about ten miles from Munda. We were in several large battles at Bougainville and our squadron was kept very busy. We shot down a total of 47 Jap planes and lost one pilot in combat. I have shot down four Jap planes and sunk one landing barge."

"We left Oudonga Dec. 2 and went to Sydney, Australia, on Dec. 5 for a week's leave and rest. Right now we do not know where we will be going next, but my guess is that it will be Empress of Augusta Bay at Bougainville."

The lieutenant's letter was dated Dec. 22. He was raised to the rank of lieutenant (jg) on last Oct. 1, which is equal in rank to first lieutenant in the army, he advised.

Hornback Family in Torrance Doing Its Part to Win War

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Hornback of 619 Arlington ave., Torrance, report having four sons and a son-in-law in the U. S. armed services, with another son about to be called. In addition, making the picture complete to show that the family is doing its part to win the war, they reveal that their daughter, Regina, now Mrs. Carl Rosetti, is employed at the National Supply Company, and their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Joe Hornback, is working at the Columbia Steel plant, helping to make equipment essential to conquer the Axis enemies.

Speaking of their sons, Mr. and Mrs. Hornback said Joe is attached to the Navy military police and is now stationed at Richmond, Va. Before enlisting he was employed by Columbia Steel.

Marshall, recently returned from Alaskan waters, where he saw plenty of action with the Navy in driving the Japs out of the "toehold" they held for a time at Attu and Kiska. Since coming back to the states he has been promoted to the rank of rigger, first class, and is now at San Francisco awaiting another assignment.

Roger O., machinist's mate, second class, with a destroyer force, has been in action on the Atlantic and participated in the invasion of Sicily. He is now with the fleet somewhere in the Pacific.

Doyle, private first class, enlisted in the Army. After serving for some time he received a medical discharge and has returned home. He is now employed at Columbia Steel's plant in Torrance.

Dan is expected to be called in the next draft. He probably will enter the Navy. Preparatory to this he is working as a longshoreman for the Army and Navy at San Francisco.

The son-in-law, Carl Rosetti, is in the U. S. Coast Guard, where he has been for three years, and is now somewhere in the Pacific area.

New Upper Zone Tests Continue To Look 'Good'

Oil land leasing continued active in the Torrance-Lomita field this week as the Shaster Petroleum's new zone discovery well on Sepulveda blvd. west of Normandie continued to pump at about 50 barrels—as exclusively reported by this paper last issue. The well, which is located on the Kenney Day lease, is producing at the 3,220 ft. to 3,380 ft. zone, a strata which was entirely overlooked in both the 1922-23 boom which brought in the 3,600 to 3,700 ft. zone and the 1928-29 boom when drillers went after the 5,000 ft. sands.

Meanwhile, operators are anxiously awaiting the outcome of a "backing-up" test of a deep hole on the Robinette location nearby. In an attempt to plug back to the 3,200 ft. zone Robinette shot in Saturday on a gun perforated job at the upper zone. Storm conditions have prevented work since, but it is expected that an attempt will be made to bring in the well today. Considerable gas was encountered—in fact, in greater volume than in the Shaster well—and oil operators say the chances are "good" for a commercially profitable producer.

If Robinette is successful in his "backing-up" test, it is predicted that large numbers of other operators will make similar tests in the numerous deep holes in the vicinity which are not now producing or at a very small volume.

Fun Makers Give Performance at Army Hospital

The National Funmakers from the National Supply Company presented a third performance at the U. S. Army Station Hospital in Torrance on Saturday evening, Feb. 19.

The group was introduced by Mrs. J. F. Straumfjord, chairman of Red Cross recreation, who expressed her appreciation in behalf of the Red Cross and the men at the hospital for a return engagement.

Roy Palmer, as master of ceremonies, presented Miss Margie Lee Ellis, attractively representing National's color and spirit, who gave a snappy exhibition with her baton.

Margie and Burt Smith drew deserved applause with their famous "Hokum dance."

The Hillbilly orchestra, composed of Roy Farquhar, Herman Wilfong, Raymond Wishan and Miss Lucille Wishan, created rhythm and foot tapping and came back to two encores, appearing later on the program with hillbilly songs.

John W. Taylor with his musical saw and Gordon Harris with combined guitar and harmonica first played a request number, "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," followed by "Home on the Range."

Jean Ennis, pianist, accompanied by the orchestra, sang two numbers, one of which was her own composition. Later she featured in a duet with another singer.

The Smiths returned with a second dance, Burt with his ukulele. Their interpretation of the "Canoe Song" evoked much merriment from the audience.

The musical team of Taylor and Harris reappeared with "Pagan Love Song" and "Song of the Islands" as a prelude to Mignon Eving's Hawaiian dance, which rated a big hand.

With the appearance of the entire group in the musical finale, the program closed.

Throughout the evening Roy Palmer stimulated enthusiasm and gaiety with his keen wit and friendly humor, while the orchestra, with Jean Ennis, pianist, Clarence Smothers, violinist, and Russ Eving, drummer, left not a dull moment between performances.

The National Funmakers were organized some time ago under the capable direction of Roy Palmer of Placer, Chief Counselor Margaret Voorhees and J. W. Taylor, warehouse manager, who have enlisted the talents of both professional and amateur employees, of whom National may justly be proud.

LONG BEACH GUESTS

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Maddy entertained at their Sunday dinner guests their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Maddy of Long Beach.



FALLEN ACACIA TREES . . . shown in the above picture portrays the "major casualties" in Torrance caused by the recent four-day storm in Torrance. One other tree was felled by the wind in another part of the city. The acacia trees were located in El Prado park near the city hall and were planted approximately 20 years ago. They were placed there at a time when it was proposed to remove the palm trees, according to William Gascoigne, city street superintendent, "but we later changed our minds about that and the palms were allowed to stand. Now we are glad of it. The root system of the acacia tree does not go down deep and when it gets too heavy it doesn't take much of a wind to blow it over after a heavy rain," the superintendent explained.

Chamber Designated Member of Transportation Advisory Board

William H. Tolson, chairman of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce transportation committee, announces that the chamber has been elected to membership in the Pacific Coast transportation advisory board.

Purposes and objectives of the advisory board are summed up in the following statement supplied the chamber of commerce:

1. To form a common meeting ground between shippers and railroads, and the carriers as a whole as represented by the car service division of the Association of American Railroads for the better mutual understanding of local transportation requirements, to analyze transportation needs in its territory and to assist in anticipating car requirements.

2. To study production, markets, distribution and trade channels of the commodities produced in its territory with a view of effecting improvements in trade practices as related to transportation and to promoting a more even distribution of commodities, where practicable.

3. To promote car and operating efficiency in connection with maximum loading and in proper handling of cars by shippers and railroads.

4. To secure a proper understanding by the railroads of the transportation needs of shippers and their cooperation in carrying out necessary rules governing car handling and distribution.

5. To acquaint shippers and railroads in each section of the country with seasonal requirements in this section in order to promote intelligent cooperation in the handling of equipment between the different districts of the country.

6. To adjust, informally, transportation difficulties which may arise in this territory between carriers and shippers.

7. To give the shipping public a direct voice in the activities of the car service division of the Association of Railroads in all matters of mutual concern.

New Rule Extends Eligibility List For War Housing

Services of the war housing centers have been considerably extended through new instructions received this week from war housing authorities, according to Pat MacDonnell, area manager with the headquarters office in Torrance.

The new order, according to MacDonnell, provides that clerical and service employees of firms engaged in war production who were on the occupancy list as of Jan. 1, 1944, can now be certified for war housing if they are not now adequately housed or are being evicted, providing the eviction has been processed and approved by O.E.A. rental division.

The order also opens the eligibility list to civilian employees of the government who are connected with transportation, either by railway, air, water or motor highways, it was stated.

Until recently only employees of war production concerns on the occupancy list who were actually engaged in war production activities, to the exclusion of clerical and other service employees, were eligible, it was explained.

This year 16,000 trees will be planted in mountain areas, a considerable portion along roads where dirt has been dumped. The reforestation program, handled largely with prison labor, will include planting 4,300 trees along the south fork of San Gabriel River, 3,700 in Soledad canyon and 3,300 in the Malibu mountains, the statement said.

Torrance Industries Not Interrupted By Four Days of Storm

Despite the four-day rainstorm which covered most of Southern California, accompanied in other spots by snow, hail and gales, Torrance escaped the onslaught almost unscathed. While the rainfall for the storm was registered at 5.81 inches for the storm, which brought the season's total up to 11.86 inches, compared with 13.74 inches during the same period last year, there were no floods to impede traffic in this community, only one traffic accident was reported by Torrance police and that one was of a minor nature.

The only damage done by the storm, police said, were three trees blown down and a plate glass window broken, caused by collapse of an awning at the corner of Sartori ave. and El Prado. Two of the trees were in El Prado Park.

Industries Keep Going Every industry in Torrance kept up uninterrupted operations throughout the stormy days and nights, while in many other sections of the southland they were forced to either close down entirely or continue with limited working forces. There were some cases of employees in Torrance plants residing outside the city experiencing difficulty in negotiating the flooded areas to get here and were forced to part late for work. But those residing within the community were at their jobs on time.

In the Los Angeles area, aside from the floods, industries were further handicapped by the strike of employees of the bureau of light and power. Storm damaged power lines went unrepaired and shutdowns resulted. Besides, several thousand homes supplied by the municipally

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J. A. Barrington Gets Appointment To Annapolis

John A. Barrington, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Barrington, 2368 Torrance blvd., has been appointed first alternate to the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis. Since it is the present policy of the academy to elect both the principal and first alternate, Barrington's selection is considered tantamount to entrance for the four-year course.

He has been ordered to report to the medical officer in charge of naval operations at San Pedro for his preliminary physical examination.

The appointment was made by Representative Cecil R. King of this Congressional District, who informed the Herald of the appointment in a telegram from Washington, D. C., yesterday.

Barrington has been accepted for the V-12 course in the Naval Reserve, and planned to leave to begin his studies at the University of California, Berkeley, on Feb. 29. Whether he will begin his training at Berkeley was planned or go directly to Annapolis will not be known until further advice is received from either Washington or Annapolis.

Barrington graduated with the winter class this year at Torrance High school and had previously taken an Annapolis preparatory course at Rutherford School in Long Beach.

Surplus Gas Supply Temporarily Suspended to Industrial Plants

The Southern California Gas Company this week was forced by extreme weather conditions to temporarily discontinue service of "surplus" gas to numerous industrial plants in this area, it was announced by P. W. Walters, manager of the company's southern division. The "shut-off," Walters stated, became necessary when abnormal domestic use for home heating, coupled with unintermittent essential war industry use, created an unusually heavy "peak" winter demand for natural gas. It is expected that service to most of the plants affected will be resumed as soon as present prevailing low temperatures and adverse weather conditions change.

It is pointed out by Walters that these latter industries receive gas service under "surplus gas" contracts, which provide for interruption of service to them in the event all available gas is needed for residential and commercial users. The provision to curtail their use of gas when necessary, he explained, takes into consideration the low rates this class of industrial users enjoy.

"While it is a customary winter procedure to curtail industrial use," Walters stated, "more than the usual number of plants

are curtailed at present because of low temperatures and the heavy demands on the system by critical war industries.

"Most industrial users have an alternate or 'standby' fuel, as contemplated by their 'surplus gas' contracts, and are able to continue their plant operations without interruption. The others, if not classed by the War Production Board as critically essential to the war program, are also curtailed according to steps prescribed by the W.P.B.

"Knowing that industrial curtailments during these war years would be more extensive and more frequent than in recent years, the company has made every reasonable effort to acquaint 'surplus' contract customers of the fact. Each has been advised and urged to install alternate 'standby' fuel whenever possible."

Council Slate 'Endorsed' by City Employees

It was currently reported about the city hall today that a group of members of the union employees of the city government held a meeting last Monday evening and "endorsed" three candidates for the city council to be voted for in the coming city election. The slate "endorsed" included: George V. Powell, incumbent, 2116 Gramercy ave.; Paul Findley, 2121 Gramercy ave., and Paul Stonelker, of Walthers, it was asserted.

There are some employees in the city hall who declare they had no notice of the meeting and knew nothing about one being held until the report became current knowledge.

None of the above named persons has filed a nomination petition.

The duo allegedly made a confession to Chief of Police Elmo Field of Gardena stating they had burglarized the Kerr garage at Gardena about Feb. 4. Chief Field said they were arrested on Feb. 11 while assertedly attempting to rob the Sunshine Market at 15115 S. Vermont ave.

The suspects were surprised in the attempted market burglary, according to Chief Field, by Mr. and Mrs. Albert T. Jared, the owners, and fled. Mrs. Jared shot twice at one of the fleeing figures with a .32 caliber revolver.

Later Officers Roy Tracey and Floyd Simmons picked up Currier at 190th and Normandie in a getaway car said to have been stolen from in front of the market.

Borges was apprehended at 178th and Western by Officers Lee Burris, Ben Veillard and Simmons. Currier is on probation from a previous burglary in Los Angeles, it was said.

Other officers include: Secretary, Alice Whittington; treasurer, Jane Paxton; librarian, Evelyn Tucker; reporter, Bobby Jean Fitzgibbons; wardrobe mistress, Betty Licht; Shirley Schaller, Marlene Leggate and Jeannette Whittington. Nancy Whyte and Elenore Sain will act as accompanists during the remainder of the school year.

The piano class was instituted with the advent of the new term for students interested in piano instruction. A total of 18 pupils, 12 girls and six boys—registered for instruction, according to figures released by the director.

Bank of America Bond Sales Total Reported

A war bond drive initiated by the statewide staff of the Bank of America, which opened Aug. 2 last and closed Feb. 15, yielded a total of \$616,297,756 in war bond sales to the public, according to announcement by A. P. Glanini, chairman of the board. Quota for the campaign was \$300,000,000.

It was revealed at the same time that since the sale of U. S. war bonds was inaugurated in 1941 the total purchases made by Californians through the Bank of America is in excess of \$1,150,000,000.

Two Lomitans Decapitated In Harbor Crash

Chester S. Brown, Jr., 27, and Kenneth Bower, 25, both residents of Lomita, were killed in a crash Wednesday morning near the California Shipbuilding Corporation's yard about 7:30 o'clock when the coupe driven by Brown plunged against a flat steel plate overhanging a truck-trailer on Dock 2. Both men were beheaded.

Harold Bledsoe, 25, also of Lomita, a passenger in the car which was demolished in the crash, escaped with a slight cut on his left hand. All were employees of the San Pedro yard of the Bethlehem Steel Company, returning from an all-night shift.

The coupe, which was driven by Brown, was going south on Dock 2, when it crashed into overhanging steel from the truck trailer which was going north on the same street. The impact leveled the turret of Brown's car from the windshield post back.

The truck was driven by Serapio Flores, 35, of 901 E. Washington, Santa Ana. He was uninjured.

Brown resided at 148 25th st., Bower at 25400 Cypress st. and Bledsoe at 2513 Pennsylvania ave., all in Lomita.

An inquest was expected to be held some time today.